

28 September, 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR : Charles W. Sampey
FROM :
SUBJECT : Kelly Johnson's Visit to Washington

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As I noted to you in the hall, John Parangosky and I had lunch last Thursday with Kelly Johnson, prior to my driving him and his wife to Annapolis for the AEDO Symposium at the Naval Academy.

Kelly visited Senator Goldwater in his office on the Hill just before we met him, and he told us that he not only told Goldwater of the clearance he had received for his article on the SR-71, but that he had told Goldwater of his continued concern over the status of ; questions about the U-2 Program. Kelly had brought a copy of the questions with him to the meeting with the Senator, and when Goldwater reviewed them in Kelly's presence, he is reported to have expressed surprise at the detailed nature of some of them, saying that he thought they were "too sensitive" to answer.

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Kelly Johnson reportedly mentioned how "CIA was working like mad to deliver a response to " and added that there was a "suspense date in the Agency to come up with answers." Kelly said that Goldwater then said he was "going to call Les Dirks and take the heat off him." Kelly said he repeated to Goldwater his intention to write the definitive story about the U-2, adding that if anyone was going to make any money out of that story, he thought he should be the one! (As you know, Kelly has sent in a rough draft of a beginning on the U-2, a copy of which I have).

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At the Naval Academy, Kelly read the article he had submitted to us for clearance word for word, before the more than 200 Navy officers in the audience (plus one lone USAF Lt. Col.) He indicated to the audience that he was going to read the material because it had been security cleared. He also showed slides of the A-12/SR-71 - the same pictures he had submitted here. I must say that he does much better when extemporizing his material. No questions were asked after his talk because of a lack of time.

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